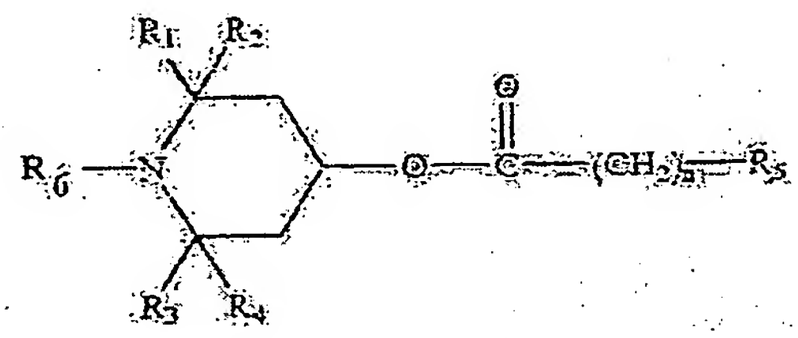
CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (Currently amended) [[Use]] A method of treating a neurodegenerative disease in an animal, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound [[of]] having the formula:



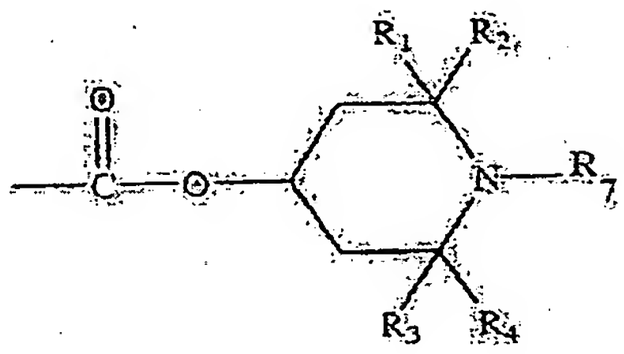
(I)

in which:

R_6 is oxyl, hydrogen or hydroxyl, R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are selected independently of one another from:

- hydrogen
- alkyl having from 1 to [[12]] 6 carbon atoms,
~~- alkenyl having from 2 to 12 carbon atoms,~~
~~- alkynyl with from 2 to 12 carbon atoms, or~~

~~- R_1 and R_2 together are tetramethylene or pentamethylene;~~
~~- R_5 is hydrogen,~~
~~- alkyl having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms,~~
~~- cycloalkyl having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms,~~
~~- alkenyl with from 2 to 12 carbon atoms,~~
~~- alkynyl having from 2 to 12 carbon atoms, or~~
- R_5 is



(II)

in which:

R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are as defined above,

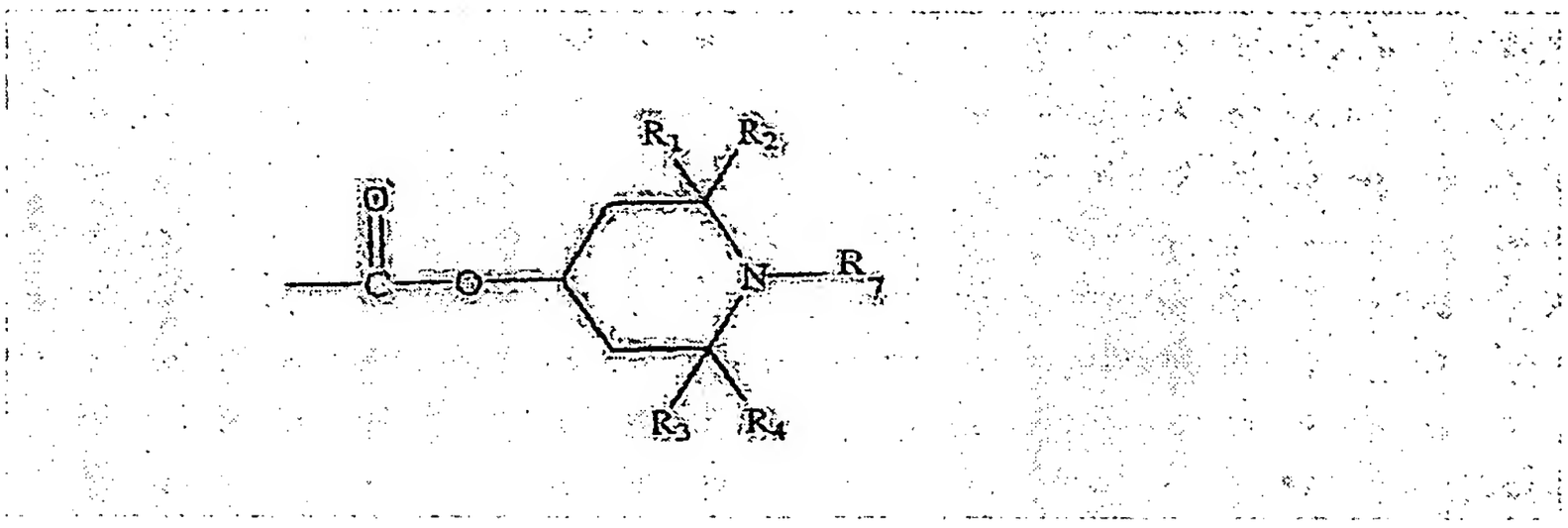
R_7 is the same as or different from R_6 and is selected from hydrogen, oxyl or hydroxyl, and

n is a whole number from ~~1 to 30,~~ 6 to 10.

~~for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for veterinary or human use or of a medicament for the therapeutic or prophylactic treatment of neurodegenerative diseases.~~

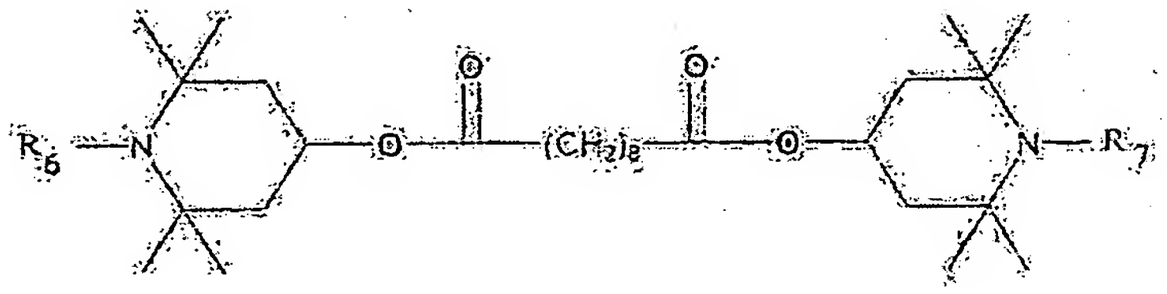
Claim 2 (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to Claim 1 in which R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are, independently of one another, an alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms and R_5 is:



in which R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are, independently of one another, an alkyl having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, R_7 is oxyl, hydrogen or hydroxyl, and n is a whole number from 6 to 10.

4. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to Claim 1 in which the compound is of formula:



(III)

in which R_6 and R_7 are identical or different and are selected from oxyl~~, hydrogen~~ and hydroxyl.

5. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to Claim 1 in which the neurodegenerative disease is selected from Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, brain lesion due to ischaemia-reperfusion, traumatic brain lesion, neuropathy due to HIV, Down's syndrome, diabetic polyneuropathy, ~~muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis,~~ Huntington's disease, ~~prion disease, late dyskinesia,~~ and tautopathy ~~tauopathy, demyelinating pathologies and Lou Gherig's syndrome~~.

6. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method of a compound as identified in Claim [[1]] 5 for the treatment of pathologies selected from lesions due to ischaemia-reperfusion in the heart, kidneys, lungs, liver and intestine, hypertension, diabetes, ~~cancer, shock, cystic fibrosis,~~ virus infections, toxicity due to drugs or radiation in [[(]]radiotherapy or radiation protection[[)]], ~~inflammation, epilepsy, atherosclerosis,~~ aging, ~~hyperlipidaemia, hypercholesterolaemia,~~ rheumatoid arthritis and for the treatment of pain or sepsis.

7. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to Claim 1 ~~in which the~~ wherein the compound is in the form of a pharmaceutical or veterinary composition or medicament [[is]] suitable for oral, parenteral, inhalatory or topical administration.

8. (Currently amended) [[Use]] The method according to Claim ~~1 in which~~ 7 comprising administering the pharmaceutical or veterinary composition or medicament [[is]] in a dosage form suitable for administration of the compound in quantities of from 0.01 to 200 mg/kg of body weight~~, preferably from 0.5 to 20 mg/kg of body weight~~.

Claims 9-10 (Cancelled)

11. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the compound of formula (I) is administered to a patient in an amount effective to treat the symptoms of Parkinson's disease or ischemia/reperfusion injury and where the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of bis(1-oxyl-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidinyl)decandioate and bis(1-hydroxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidinyl)decandioate.

12. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein the dosage is 0.5 to 20 mg/kg of body weight.